

**John Murray**

From: Bruce Stamski
Sent: Monday, June 04, 2007 8:46 AM
To: Manager Department
Subject: FW: Invitation: Acton Proposed Sidewalk, Citizens Onsite Review

I am not sure if you were invited.

-----Original Message-----

From: Terra Friedrichs
Sent: Saturday, June 02, 2007 1:51 PM
To: Engineering Department; Natural Resources Department; Municipal Properties Department; terraf
Subject: Invitation: Acton Proposed Sidewalk, Citizens Onsite Review

You are invited to: A Citizen's Walk of the planned route for the sidewalk along Rt 27 from Post Office Square to R2a. We will look at existing plans and discuss specific trees marked for removal. We will talk over design/construction techniques with Tom Doolittle from WalkBoston.

When: Sunday, 6/3, 3 pm

Why: We are concerned that the plan includes removing many very, very old trees. We are hoping to become more informed about the plan and about design/construction techniques used in urban areas for saving old trees.

Who: Us! And You! And of course, our guess of honor...Mr. Tom Doolittle, an Acton resident and landscape architect who will be joining a few concerned citizens to look at the plans and walk the site to look at specific trees.

Where: We will start in the back parking lot of 525 Main Street where we will review the plans for the route. After reviewing the plans, those of us that want to walk the proposed route can do so. If it's raining, we'll meet at O'Naturals (149 Great Rd (Rt2A), by Trader Joe's) and look at the plans and then if folks don't mind getting wet, we can walk the proposed route afterwards.

Tom is on the Board of WalkBoston.org, which focuses on creating walkable urban areas, including preserving old shade trees. Tom is a landscape architect and has a lot of experience with urban tree planting techniques which may be adaptable to the situation along Main Street. He will be looking at the site for the first time. Although he can not give his formal opinions without speaking to the designers, he will be able to share with us his initial impressions of the proposed plans. He can give us suggestions on the types of techniques that could be used to save the old trees even if the sidewalks are installed close to the trees. He has ideas on how to do this without much extra expense, or any change in the rights of way. He will be able to share with us some of his experiences saving trees and the methods for doing so.

At a later date, Tom has agreed to go over the plans again with Town Staff, if they want. If the staff is interested in walking the site again and explaining the challenges that they faced in designing the plan, Tom said that he will be willing to walk the site with them and/or go over the proposed plans with them. After speaking directly with the designers of the plan, Tom will be able to then share with us more detailed and informed thoughts about the project.

If you have any questions, please call or write:

Terra

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